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those plans that takes costs...that costs money to implement, that's one of those kinds of plans that the nitrates...the fertilizer tax are being used to alleviate. The average nitrate levels average 17.5 parts per million, in some wells over 35 parts per million. You have to understand that in the context that the federal maximum drinking water standard is 10 parts per million. And in this broad area the average nitrate levels in the Central Platte are 17.5 already, with some wells over 35, three and a half times the federal standard. main source of contamination is commercial fertilizers leaching caused by overuse of irrigation water. Local action taken includes mandatory regulations on fertilizer applications and educational programs for producers. Enhancement funds are used to support the programs as follows: research demonstration projects; ground water sampling; deep vadose zone sampling, that means of the fertilizers getting below the roots of plants and leaching down into the ground water; cost-share to landowners for implementation of water quality best management That's one of the ways we're getting farmers to practices. engage in the good practices is to cost-share with them. are 22 other NRDs, I want to go through every one of them, but I know I can't do that. So I'm going to stop there. Maybe I'll do one or two a day, maybe it will be like Senator Chambers doing on the appointment process, I'll just feed you a little piece at a time and then you'll be less annoyed with me. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Schrock, on the committee amendments to LB 1348. Senator Schrock. Senator Schrock waives off. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, and to my "mentee", Senator Beutler, the reason that I only take a couple of appointments at a time, Senator Beutler, is because that's all that will be presented to us on a day. But if they gave me a list of 20, and I felt it necessary to comment on each one, I would. But you do do things according to your own methodology. I would like to ask you a question based on something you said that caught my attention, and I may not have gotten the second part. You said there are two main sources of